

HOUSE BILL 529

C5

11r1813
CF SB 718

By: Delegates A. Miller, Afzali, Alston, Arora, Barkley, Barve, Boteler, Carr, Clippinger, Cullison, Dumais, Feldman, George, Gilchrist, Glass, Hammen, Ivey, Kaiser, A. Kelly, Kramer, Lee, Luedtke, Niemann, O'Donnell, Olszewski, Pena-Melnyk, Reznik, S. Robinson, Serafini, Summers, F. Turner, Valderrama, Valentino-Smith, and Zucker

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2011

Assigned to: Economic Matters

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted with floor amendments

Read second time: March 9, 2011

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Telephone Companies – Distribution of Telephone Directories to Residential**
3 **Customers**

4 FOR the purpose of providing that a telephone company may not be required to
5 distribute a certain telephone directory to an address in the State unless the
6 property owner or an occupant requests the directory; requiring a telephone
7 company to provide certain notice to customers if the telephone company elects
8 not to deliver a telephone directory to each customer; requiring a telephone
9 company to deliver a print telephone directory to a customer at no cost to the
10 customer under certain circumstances; and generally relating to telephone
11 companies and the distribution of telephone directories.

12 BY adding to

13 Article – Public Utilities
14 Section 8–206
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2010 Replacement Volume)

17 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
18 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike-out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 Article – Public Utilities

2 8-206.

3 (A) THIS SECTION APPLIES TO TELEPHONE DIRECTORIES DISTRIBUTED
4 BY, OR ON BEHALF OF, A TELEPHONE COMPANY OTHER THAN
5 ADVERTISEMENT-BASED BUSINESS DIRECTORIES.

6 (B) A TELEPHONE COMPANY MAY NOT BE REQUIRED TO DISTRIBUTE A
7 TELEPHONE DIRECTORY TO AN ADDRESS IN THE STATE UNLESS THE PROPERTY
8 OWNER OR AN OCCUPANT REQUESTS THE TELEPHONE DIRECTORY.

9 (C) (1) IF A TELEPHONE COMPANY ELECTS NOT TO DISTRIBUTE A
10 TELEPHONE DIRECTORY TO EACH CUSTOMER, THE TELEPHONE COMPANY
11 SHALL PROVIDE NOTICE AS TO HOW A CUSTOMER MAY REQUEST A PRINT
12 TELEPHONE DIRECTORY.

13 (2) THE NOTICE REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS
14 SUBSECTION SHALL:

15 (I) INCLUDE A TOLL-FREE TELEPHONE NUMBER A
16 CUSTOMER MAY CALL TO REQUEST A PRINT TELEPHONE DIRECTORY; AND

17 (II) BE INCLUDED:

18 1. ~~WITH CUSTOMER BILLS~~ IN EACH CUSTOMER'S
19 BILL AT LEAST ONCE EACH YEAR; AND

20 2. ON THE COMPANY'S WEB SITE.

21 (3) IF A CUSTOMER REQUESTS A PRINT TELEPHONE DIRECTORY,
22 THE TELEPHONE COMPANY SHALL DELIVER THE DIRECTORY TO THE CUSTOMER
23 AT NO COST TO THE CUSTOMER.

24 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
25 October 1, 2011.